

What is claimed is:

1 1. A system for providing locally generated prompts/announcements in a
 2 telecommunications network, the system comprising
 3 a centralized service for storing a plurality of prompt/announcement files, said plurality
 4 including various types of files;
 5 a telecommunications device located in close proximity to the user, said
 6 telecommunications device for downloading predetermined files from said plurality of files;
 7 and
 8 at least one communication device for interacting with said telecommunications device
 9 and selecting the predetermined ones of said files to be downloaded.

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 1 2. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least one communication device
 2 comprises a telephone with a keypad for selecting prompt/announcement files.

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 1 3. The system as defined in claim 2 wherein the selected prompt/announcement files
 2 comprise voice files.

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 1 4. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least one communication device
 2 comprises a computer with a keyboard for selecting prompt/announcement files.

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 1 5. The system as defined in claim 4 wherein the selected files are chosen from a group
 2 consisting of text files, video files and multimedia files.

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 1 6. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least one communication device
 2 comprises
 3 a telephone with a keypad for selecting a first subset of files; and
 4 a computer with a keyboard for selecting a second subset of files.

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 1 7. The system as defined in claim 6 wherein the first subset of files comprises voice
 2 files and the second subset of files comprises files chosen from a group consisting of text files,
 3 video files and multimedia files.

1 **8.** The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the network comprises an HFC network
2 and the telecommunications device comprises a communications gateway.

1 **9.** A method of providing client-side prompt/announcement files for use by a
2 subscriber on a local telecommunications device from a plurality of prompt/announcement
3 files stored on a centralized server, the method comprising the steps of:
4 a) determining subscriber characteristics;
5 b) determining the type of user entry device;
6 c) downloading a subset of prompt/announcement files from the centralized server to
7 the local telecommunications device based upon the determined subscriber characteristics and
8 the type of user entry device.

1 **10.** The method as defined in claim 9 wherein in performing step a), the subscriber
2 characteristics include language, location and subscribed-to telecommunication services.

1 **11.** The method as defined in claim 9 wherein in performing step b), the user entry
2 device comprises a telephone with a keypad and in performing step c), voice files are
3 downloaded.

1 **12.** The method as defined in claim 9 wherein in performing step b), the user entry
2 device comprises a computer with a keyboard and in performing step c), the files are chosen
3 from a group consisting of text files, video files and multimedia files are downloaded.

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